



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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DEAN D. EFSTATHIOU, Acting Director

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:
P.O. BOX 1460
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460

October 7, 2008

IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO FILE: **SM-0**

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**BENEFICIAL USES
SURVEY OF MARIE CANYON IN MALIBU
AWARD CONSULTANT SERVICES AGREEMENT
(SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 3)
(3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

This action is for the Acting Director of Public Works or his designee to enter into a consultant services agreement with WRC Consulting Services, Inc., in the amount of \$191,880 to conduct appropriate field work, including a bioassessment, and to survey agencies and environmental groups to determine the beneficial uses of Marie Canyon.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD ACTING AS THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CONSOLIDATED SEWER MAINTENANCE DISTRICT, MALIBU MESA ZONE:

1. Find that the proposed project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act for the reasons stated in this letter and in the record of the project.
2. Award a contract to WRC Consulting Services, Inc., in the amount of \$191,880 to conduct a Beneficial Uses Survey of Marie Canyon in Malibu.
3. Authorize the Acting Director of Public Works or his designee to execute the contract.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The purpose of the recommended actions is to find that the project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and to authorize the Acting Director of Public Works or his designee to enter into a consultant services agreement with WRC Consulting Services, Inc., in the amount of \$191,880 to conduct appropriate field work, including a bioassessment, and to survey agencies and environmental groups to determine the beneficial uses of Marie Canyon. In accordance with Time Schedule Order No. R4-2007-0003 for the Malibu Mesa Wastewater Reclamation Plant issued by the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), we must complete the study to determine the impact our emergency discharge will have on Marie Canyon's water quality or upgrade the treatment plant before December 10, 2011. We agreed with the RWQCB to perform the study in lieu of replacing/upgrading the Malibu Mesa Wastewater Reclamation Plant immediately. These services are critical for regulatory compliance.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The Countywide Strategic Plan directs the provision of Service Excellence (Goal 1) and Fiscal Responsibility (Goal 4) by providing the most cost-effective measures to allow the continued operation of the wastewater treatment plant's emergency National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit and protecting the environment, which improves the quality of life in the County.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There will be no impact to the County General Fund. The contract is for an amount not to exceed \$191,880. Sufficient funding for this contract is available in the Consolidated Sewer Maintenance District's Fiscal Year 2008-09 Malibu Mesa Zone (Fund GC5).

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The contract Scope of Work will include conducting appropriate field work, performing a bioassessment, and surveying agencies and environmental groups to determine the beneficial uses of Marie Canyon. These services are critical for regulatory compliance with the Time Schedule Order and failure to comply may subject the County to fines and/or termination of the wastewater treatment plant's emergency NPDES permit by the RWQCB.

The contract will be a consultant services agreement in a form approved by County Counsel and will contain provisions requiring the contractor to comply with terms and conditions supporting your Board's ordinances, policies, and programs.

Data regarding the proposers' minority participation is on file with the Department of Public Works. The contractor was selected upon final analysis and consideration without regard to race, creed, gender, or color.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The proposed project is categorically exempt from the CEQA. The project is to conduct field work, including a bioassessment, and survey agencies and environmental groups to determine the beneficial uses of Marie Canyon. The project is within a class of projects that has been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment in that it meets the criteria set forth in Section 15306 of the State CEQA Guidelines dealing with basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities that do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource and Class 6 of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G. In addition, the project meets the requirements of Section 15300.2 of the State CEQA Guidelines in that it will not impact on an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern where designated, precisely mapped, and officially adopted pursuant to law by Federal, State, or local agencies, and there are no cumulative impacts, unusual circumstances, or other limiting factors that would make the exemption inapplicable based on the project records.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

On May 16, 2007, Public Works sent out a Request for Proposals to develop a select list of engineering consultants. The proposals were sent to 53 firms and advertised on the County webpage. A total of 14 firms responded to the Request for Proposals.

An evaluation committee comprised of Public Works' staff evaluated the proposals and selected five firms as the best qualified firms for the Select List of Qualified Consultants (SLQC) for watershed management and storm water quality-related tasks. The firms selected were WRC Consulting Services, Inc.; Tetra Tech, Inc.; Geosyntec; RBF Consulting; and MWH Americas. The selection was done without regard to race, creed, color, or gender. As projects develop, Public Works selects consultants in order of established ranking from SLQC. WRC Consulting Services, Inc., is the first firm on the SLQC for this project.

Participation by Community Business Enterprises (CBEs) in the project is encouraged through Public Works' CBE Outreach Program and the requirement that consultants demonstrate their good faith efforts to utilize CBEs. WRC Consulting Services, Inc., is aware of Public Works' CBE Outreach Program, and its proposed CBE participation is on file with Public Works.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
October 7, 2008
Page 4

Public Works has evaluated and determined that the Living Wage Program, County Code Chapter 2.201, does not apply to the recommended agreement, as this agreement is for non-Proposition A services.

As requested by your Board on February 3, 1998, and to further increase consultant awareness of contracting opportunities with Public Works, this contract opportunity was listed on the "Doing Business with Us" website.

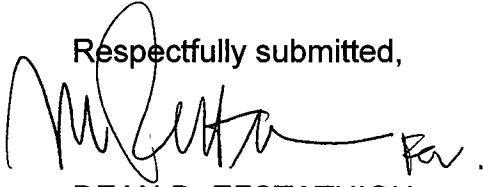
IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Approval of the recommended action will not have an impact on current projects or services.

CONCLUSION

Please return one adopted copy of this letter to the Department of Public Works, Sewer Maintenance Division.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Efsthio', followed by a small 'Rev.' or similar mark.

DEAN D. EFSTATHIOU
Acting Director of Public Works

DDE:MdR:ag

c: Chief Executive Office (Lari Sheehan)
County Counsel
Department of Public Social Services (GAIN/GROW Program)